

SHANGHAI BREWERY.

DRAUGHT ALES  
BITTER ALE IN FIRKINS  
Bottled, \$1.50 per dozen pints.  
COTTAM & Co.,  
Agents.

# The Hongkong Telegraph.

ESTABLISHED 1881.

WEBSTER'S  
DICTIONARY  
NEW EDITION,  
IS THE  
BEST AND CHEAPEST.  
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NEW SERIES No. 658. 日九廿月六三十二號光

WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1897.

三月廿九日

號八廿月七英港香

THIRTY DOLLARS  
PER ANNUM.

## Banks.

HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION.

PAID-UP CAPITAL \$10,000,000

RESERVE FUND \$6,000,000

ANNUAL LIABILITY OF PROPRIETORS \$10,000,000

COURT OF DIRECTORS:

St. C. Michaelson, Esq.—Chairman.

Hon. J. J. Bell-Irving—Deputy Chairman.

C. Brumman, Esq.

A. I. Raymond, Esq.

G. D. Bösing, Esq.

R. L. Richardson, Esq.

G. B. Dowell, Esq.

R. Shaw, Esq.

R. M. Gray, Esq.

N. A. Sieba, Esq.

David Gubbay, Esq.

Gerald Slade, Esq.

CHIEF MANAGER:

Hongkong—T. JACKSON, Esq.

MANAGER:

Shanghai—J. P. WADE GARDNER, Esq.

LONDON BANKERS—LONDON AND COUNTY BANKING COMPANY, LIMITED.

HONGKONG—INTEREST ALLOWED.

On Current Account at the rate of 2 per cent.

per Annum on the daily balance.

INTEREST ON FIXED DEPOSITS:

For 3 months, 2½ per cent. per Annum.

For 6 months, 3 per cent. per Annum.

For 12 months, 4 per cent. per Annum.

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 10th April, 1897.

[8]

HONGKONG SAVINGS BANK.

THE Business of the above Bank is conducted

by the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI BANKING CORPORATION. Rules may be

obtained on application.

INTEREST on deposits is allowed at 3½ PER

CENT. per annum.

Depositors may transfer at their option

balances of \$100 or more to the HONGKONG AND

SHANGHAI BANK to be placed on FIXED

DEPOSIT at 4 PER CENT. per annum.

For the HONGKONG AND SHANGHAI

BANKING CORPORATION,

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 1st August, 1897.

[9]

THE CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,

AUSTRALIA AND CHINA.

INCORPORATED BY ROYAL CHARTER, 1853.

HEAD OFFICE—LONDON.

CAPITAL PAID-UP \$300,000

RESERVE LIABILITY OF SHARE-

HOLDERS \$300,000

RESERVE FUND \$37,000

INTEREST ALLOWED on CURRENT

ACCOUNT at the Rate of 3 per cent. per

annum on the Daily Balances.

On Fixed Deposits for 12 months 4 per cent.

" " 6 " 3½ "

" " 3 " 3½ "

T. H. WHITEHEAD,

Manager, Hongkong.

Hongkong, 2nd June, 1897.

[31]

THE NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,

LIMITED.

Authorized Capital \$1,000,000

Subscribed Capital \$1,000,000

HEAD OFFICE—HONGKONG.

Court of Directors—

D. Giltinan, Esq.

Chow Tung Shang, Esq.

H. Shulterditch, Esq.

Kwan Ho Chuen, Esq.

Chan Kit Shan, Esq.

Chief Manager,

GEO. W. F. PLAYFAIR.

Interest for 12 months Fixed, 5 per cent.

Hongkong, 23rd October, 1897.

[7]

## Intimations.

HONGKONG, CANTON AND MACAO STEAMBOAT COMPANY, LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

THE SIXTY-SECOND ORDINARY

HALF-YEARLY MEETING OF

SHAREHOLDERS in the COMPANY will be

held at the OFFICE of the COMPANY, No. 18,

Bank Buildings, Queen's Road Central, on

SATURDAY, the 1st inst., at 12 o'clock NOON,

for the purpose of receiving a Report of the

Directors, together with a Statement of Accounts,

declaring a Dividend, and electing Directors

and Auditors.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company

will be CLOSED from the 15th to 31st inclusive.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

T. JACKSON,

Chief Manager.

Hongkong, 23rd July, 1897.

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NOTICE.

HONGKONG ICE COMPANY, LTD.

In accordance with the Provisions of No. 104

of the Articles of Association the GENERAL

MANAGERS have this Day DECLARED an

INTERIM DIVIDEND for the Half-Year

ended 30th June, 1897, of EIGHT per Cent.

on the Paid-up Capital. DIVIDEND WARRANTS

Payable at the HONGKONG & SHANG-

HAI BANK will be issued to Shareholders on

WEDNESDAY, 28th July.

The TRANSFER BOOKS of the Company

will be CLOSED from 20th to 28th inst., both

days inclusive.

JARDINE, MATTHESON & Co.,

General Managers.

Hongkong, 13th July, 1897.

[105]

THE HONGKONG ELECTRIC COMPANY,

LIMITED.

NOTICE TO SHAREHOLDERS.

FINAL CALL.

SHAREHOLDERS are hereby notified that

the FINAL CALL of TWO DOLLARS

(\$2) per Share has been made, and is PAYABLE

at the Company's Office, No. 27, Queen's Road

Central, on 9th August, 1897.

SHAREHOLDERS are requested, when Paying

the above-mentioned CALL, to send to the Acting

Secretary their PROVISIONAL SHARE CERTIFICATES.

These will be retained, and

FULLY PAID-UP CERTIFICATES will be issued in

their stead in due course.

By Order of the Board of Directors,

CHAS. F. HARTON,

Acting Secretary.

Hongkong, 13th July, 1897.

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## INSURANCES.

THE STANDARD  
is one of the LARGEST and BEST KNOWN  
of the BRITISH LIFE OFFICES.

FUNDS exceed EIGHT MILLIONS STERLING.  
ANNUAL REVENUE OVER ONE MILLION  
STERLING.

For Forms of Proposal and every Information  
Apply to

DODWELL, CARLILL & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 2nd March, 1897.

[27]

THE MANCHESTER FIRE ASSURANCE  
COMPANY.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1854.

CAPITAL \$2,000,000

TOTAL FUNDS AND SECURITY \$2,420,053

NET ANNUAL FIRE PREMIUM \$75,478

HAVING been appointed AGENTS of the  
above Company we are prepared to accept  
EUROPEAN and CHINESE RISKS  
at CURRENT RATES.

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 1st January, 1897.

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NORTH GERMAN FIRE INSURANCE  
COMPANY OF HAMBURG.

THE Undesignated AGENTS of the above  
Company are prepared to accept First  
Class FOREIGN and CHINESE RISKS at  
CURRENT RATES.

SIEMSEN & Co.,

Agents.

Hongkong, 28th May, 1897.

[28]

GENERAL NOTICE.

THE ON TAI INSURANCE COMPANY  
(LIMITED).

CAPITAL, TAELS \$600,000

EQUAL TO \$83,333.33

RESERVE FUND \$318,000.00

BOARD OF DIRECTORS.

LEE SING, Esq.

LOU TSO, SHUN,

Co-day's  
Advertisements.

PRESEVERANCE LODGE OF

HONGKONG, No. 1,65.

A N EMERGENCY MEETING of the above LODGE will be held in the FARRINGTON'S HALL, Zetland Street on TUESDAY, the 3rd August, at 5 for 5.30 p.m. precisely. Visiting Brethren are cordially invited to attend. Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1158]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND FOOCHOW.

THE Company's Steamship

"NAMOA," Captain Hall, will be despatched for the above Ports TO-MORROW, the 29th instant, at Noon, and not as previously notified.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1140]

OCEAN STEAMSHIP COMPANY.

FOR LONDON, VIA SUEZ CANAL

THE Company's Steamship

"ORESTES," Captain Baker, will be despatched as above TO-MORROW, the 29th instant, at Noon.

For Freight, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1075]

THE CHINA MUTUAL STEAM NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR LONDON AND LIVERPOOL, VIA STRAITS AND USUAL PORTS OF CALL.

(Taking Cargo at through rates for GLASGOW, CONTINENTAL PORTS, RIVER PLATE, &c.) THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGWO," Captain H. Hart, will be despatched as above on TUESDAY, the 3rd August, at 5 P.M.

For Freight, &c., apply to

HOLLIDAY, WISE & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1124]

DOUGLAS STEAMSHIP COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR SWATOW, AMOY AND TAMSUI.

THE Company's Steamship

"HAILOONG," Captain Hedges, will be despatched for the above Ports on FRIDAY, the 30th instant, at Noon.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

DOUGLAS LAPRAIK & Co., General Managers.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1159]

NAVIGAZIONE GENERALE ITALIANA, (FLORIO & RUBATTINO UNITED COMPANIES).

STEAM FOR SINGAPORE, PENANG, BOMBAY AND GENOA. (Without Transhipment.)

Having connection with Company's Mail Steamers to ADEN, SUEZ, PORT SAID, MESSINA, NAPLES, LEGHORN,

ALSO VENICE and TRIESTE, all MEDITERRANEAN, ADRIATIC, LEVANTINE and SOUTH AMERICAN PORTS up to CALLAO.

Taking Cargo at through rates to PERSIAN GULF and BAGDAD,

ALSO BARCELONA, VALENZA, ALICANTE, ALMERIA and MALAGA.

THE Steamship

"BISAGNO," Captain Mancini, will be despatched as above on WEDNESDAY, the 4th August, at Noon.

At BOMBAY the Steamers are discharging in VICTORIA DOCK.

For Further Particulars regarding Freight and Passage, apply to

CARLOWITZ & Co., Agents.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1161]

CHINA NAVIGATION COMPANY, LIMITED.

FOR PORT DARWIN, QUEENSLAND PORTS, SYDNEY AND MELBOURNE.

THE Company's Steamship

"CHINGTU," Captain Innes, will be despatched on TUESDAY, the 10th August, at 3 P.M.

The attention of Passengers is directed to the Superior Accommodation offered by this Steamer. The First-class Saloon is situated forward of the Engines. A Refrigerating Chamber ensures the Supply of Fresh Provisions during the entire voyage.

A duly qualified Surgeon is carried and the Vessel is fitted throughout with Electric Light.

Return Tickets issued by this Company to and from AUSTRALIA are available for return by Steamers of the EASTERN AND AUSTRALIAN S. S. Co. and *via* *terti*.

For Freight or Passage, apply to

BUTTERFIELD & SWIRE, Agents.

Hongkong, 28th July, 1897. [1160]

WORTH A GUINEA A BOX.

BEECHAM'S PILLS

FOR ALL BILIOUS AND NERVOUS DISORDERS SUCH AS SICK HEADACHE, CONSTIPATION, WEAK STOMACH, IMPAIRED DIGESTION, DISORDERED LIVER, AND FEMALE AILMENTS.

ANNUAL SALE SIX MILLION BOXES.

50 Cents per Box.

Prepared only by the Proprietor:— THOMAS BEECHAM, St. Helens, England.

SOLE AGENTS for HONGKONG and the EMPIRE OF CHINA:—

WATKINS & CO., APOTHECARY'S HALL, 66, Queen's Road Central, HONGKONG. [191]

S I E N T I N G,  
SURGEON DENTIST,  
No. 10, UAGUILLAR STREET.  
TERMS VERY MODERATE,  
Consultation free.

Hongkong, 28th September, 1897. [143]

Intimations.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & COMPANY.

VICTORIA DISPENSARY,  
HONGKONG.

AERATED WATERS.

SIMPLE AERATED WATER.

SODA WATER.

LEMONADE.

GINGER ALE.

SARASPARILLA.

RASPBERRYADE, &c.

DAKIN, CRUICKSHANK & Co.'s WATERS are made under the constant supervision of a duly qualified English Chemist and will bear comparison with the best English Manufactures.

Special terms to HOTELS, CLUBS, MEETINGS and other Large Consumers.

Any complaint should be addressed to the Manager.

Hongkong, 1st March, 1897. [1379]

TO SUBSCRIBERS.

SUBSCRIBERS TO "THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH" ARE MOST RESPECTFULLY REMINDED THAT ALL SUBSCRIPTIONS MUST BE PAID IN ADVANCE.

NOTICES TO CORRESPONDENTS.

It is requested that all communications relating to Subscriptions, Advertisements, &c., be addressed to the "Manager, Hongkong Telegraph" and not to the Editor.

Letters on Editorial matters are to be sent to "The Editor" and on other matters to the "Manager." All communications must be accompanied by the name and address of the writer, not necessarily for publication but as evidence of good faith.

Whilst the cost of the "Transit Pass" will always be paid by the Company, the postage of all questions affecting public interests, it must be distinctly understood that the Editor does not in any way hold himself responsible for opinions thus expressed.

TO ADVERTISERS.

Advertisers are requested to forward all notices intended for insertion in this day's issue not later than Three o'clock so as not to retard the early publication of the paper.

No notice will be taken of any advertisement not ordered for a fixed period will be continued until countermanded.

The Hongkong Telegraph has the largest circulation of any English newspaper published in the Far East, and is therefore in a position to command a large advertising revenue.

The Hongkong Telegraph's number at the Telephone Central Exchange is No. 1. Telegraphic address is—"Telegraph, Hongkong."

CHEMISTS BY APPOINTMENT.

ESTABLISHED A.D. 1841.

MANUFACTURERS

OF

AERATED

WATERS.

OUR AERATED WATER FACTORY is fitted with the best English Machinery, embodying the latest improvements in the trade.

The Finest Ingredients only are used, and the utmost Care and Cleanliness exercised in the Manufacture throughout.

The Water used is proved by repeated Analyses to be Absolutely Pure.

For COAST PORTS, Waters are picked and placed on board ship at Hongkong prices, and the full amount allowed for Packages and Empties when received in good order.

Counterfoil Order Books supplied on application.

Our Registered Telegraphic Address is "DISPENSARY, HONGKONG." And all signed messages addressed thus will receive prompt attention.

The following is a List of Waters always kept ready in Stock:—

PURE AERATED WATER,  
SODA WATER,  
LEMONADE,  
POTASH WATER,  
SALTZER WATER,

LITHIUM WATER,  
SARASPARILLA WATER,  
TONIC WATER,  
GINGER ALE,

GINGERADE.

No Credit given for Bottles that look dirty or greasy, or that appear to have been used for any other purpose than that of containing Aerated Waters, as such Bottles are never used again by us.

A. S. WATSON & CO., LTD.  
THE HONGKONG DISPENSARY,  
Hongkong, 15th April, 1897. [10]

DEATH.  
On the 15th inst. at the Yokohama General Hospital, CAMILLE DE LASCHUTZER, of Paris; aged 28 years.

TELEGRAMS.

REUTER'S MESSAGES.

THE UNITED STATES AND JAPAN.

LONDON, July 26th.

The New York Herald states that the reply of Japan to Senator Sherman's note, replying to the original Japanese protest against the annexation of the Hawaiian Islands by the United States, indicates that Japan will continue to wage a diplomatic war, and may possibly go further, to prevent the annexation. The reply further states that it is impossible for Japan to accede to the probable consequences of the extinction of the Hawaiian sovereignty.

It is believed in New York that this only means a rupture of relations and not war.

GERMANY.

The Prussian Lower House has, by a majority of four, a second time rejected a stringent Government Bill for amending the law for empowering the police to dissolve public meetings.

(From the *Kobe Chronicle*.)

THE HAWAIIAN QUESTION.

TOKIO, July 17th.

Dispatches from Mr. Shimamura, the Japanese Minister at Honolulu, were received yesterday at the Foreign Office. The following is reported to be the gist of the Minister's report:—

Mr. Shimamura demanded a definite answer from the Hawaiian Government to the Japanese demands by the 25th ult.; but failed to obtain a satisfactory reply. Thereupon he had an interview with Mr. Smith, the Hawaiian Minister for Finance, in which he took up a decisive attitude. Mr. Smith appeared somewhat dismayed at this, and asked the Japanese Minister to communicate with President Dole. Mr. Shimamura thereupon saw the President, who stated that he proposed to ask that the questions at issue be referred to arbitration, and suggested that Mr. Shimamura should request his Government to accede to this course. The proposal for arbitration was officially communicated to Mr. Shimamura on the 28th ult., by Mr. Cooper, the Minister for Foreign Affairs. Councillor Akiyama has therefore postponed his departure until the receipt of further instructions from Count Okuma.

It appears that the Japanese Government has not yet made up its mind concerning the proposal of the Hawaiian Government, and a special Cabinet Council will probably be called to discuss the question. It is believed, however, that the Ministry is inclined to accept the proposal to submit the dispute to arbitration.

(Official Report.)

WASHINGTON, July 16th.

The Committee on Foreign Affairs in the U.S. Senate reported to the House on the 14th inst. on the proposed Hawaiian Annexation Treaty, recommending the adoption of the measure. It is, however, not expected that the Senate will discuss the Treaty during the present Session.

[The above telegram was received by the Government from Mr. Hashi, the Japanese Minister at Washington.]

(Special to the *Japan Mail*.)

WRECK OF A WHALING VESSEL.

HAKODATE, July 14th.

The American whaling barque *Cape Horn* has been stranded outside the harbour. The wreck is rapidly breaking up, but a portion of the valuable cargo of sperm oil is being salvaged.

(Special to the *Japan Mail*.)

LOCAL AND GENERAL.

POLL RD'S Opera Co. to-morrow night.

THE buying rate for sovereigns is \$10.40 per £.

THE U.S.S. *Yorkeville* arrived at Nagasaki on the 21st inst. from Kobe.

ANOTHER fall in the value of the once "mighty dollar." To-day it is quoted at 10. 16 1/2 per £.

LIEUT.-COL. D. S. Cunningham, 1st Punjab Cavalry, has been appointed Road Commandant with the Tschili Field Force.

Two foreign experts to be employed at the Japanese Government Iron Foundry are reported to have been engaged in Germany.

AUSTRIA has ordered from Yarrow's four first-class torpedo-boats. They are to be larger than the *Viper* type and are to steam 28 knots.

The Foochow correspondent of the Shanghai *Shenbao* reports that the bubonic plague in the native city and suburbs is most serious and that people are dying very rapidly. The centre of the plague is in the vicinity of the Tatar Ghetto.

LIEUT.-GENERAL Nagi, Governor-General of Formosa, now staying in Tokio, will, it is said, return to Formosa early next month, by which time it is thought all matters concerning the Formosan administration will have been arranged by the Central Authorities.

# THE HONGKONG TELEGRAPH, WEDNESDAY, JULY 28, 1897.

## CATASTROPHE IN QUEEN'S ROAD WEST.

### COLLAPSE OF TWO HOUSES.

#### MANY PERSONS INJURED, AND SOME KILLED.

One of the most serious accidents that has occurred in Hongkong for some time past took place in Queen's Road West at 8 a.m. to-day when houses Nos. 248 and 250 collapsed. The result as far as known to noon was that 13 persons had been extricated from the ruins and sent to the Government Civil Hospital and it was feared that at least one man under the debris was dead, while the upper portions of the bodies of two others were in sight.

As to the cause of the catastrophe it is thought to be due to a fire that occurred shortly after 12 o'clock last night in the second floor room of No. 248. The ground floor is occupied as a lantern shop and the upper floors are reported to have been empty, but the police believe they were used by gamblers. Deputy Superintendent McDonald had charge of the Fire Brigade and got the cubicles under in half an hour, the flames being confined to the rafters and roof of the kitchen and the damage was only slight. Before leaving the premises the usual police guard was posted and nothing further took place till 8 a.m. to-day when the Central Fire Station received word that the two houses mentioned had fallen in. Men were at once despatched and found that the two upper floors had completely collapsed leaving nothing but a pile of ruins. It was soon ascertained that the inmates of the lantern shop had made their escape but their neighbours were not so fortunate. Among the ruins could be seen several unfortunate struggling and cries for help came from many quarters. The police under Sergeant McDonald, and firemen under Assistant Firemen McLaren and Gauld set to work with a will, and as the Government Civil Hospital ambulances arrived they were freighted with the injured men and despatched to the hospital. After 12 men had been got out three more were seen uncovered to the world, but their lower limbs were pinned down by timbers and great masses of bricks and rubbish. After half an hour's work or more the firemen and police added, by a gang of coolies got one of the men free. The poor fellow seemed to be in great pain and he suffered too from being exposed so long in the sun's burning rays and the chafing dust. The workers were next busily attending the other two, but it was feared that one of them would succumb before he could be extricated. Cries were heard fainting from under a pile of bricks near the right front of the place. Encouraging answers were given and all hands struggled hard to reach the man. The hours however passed after a time and there is every reason to suppose that death ended the unfortunate fellow's agony. The last man to be got out was lifted to the ambulance by F. C. Mac Swayd and when placed in the vehicle he gave evidence of having seriously injured. No. 250 was occupied by a barber on the ground floor; the first floor was an opium den and the second as a coolie house. It is not known how many persons were in the place at the time and the workers are of opinion that their search will reveal more victims. The whole of the roof timbers, flooring etc. of No. 250 has been placed out in the road and the only trace of the building remaining is the balcony over the shop from above having crashed down into the shop and the strings of bright coloured lanterns hanging still in various parts give the scene of desolation a strange effect. The buildings are said to have been put up some 15 years ago and several experts who saw the walls say that it is a wonder they did not come down before, seeing the way in which the bricks were put together, and the weak mortar. A portion of the western wall of No. 248 on the ground floor is standing to about the height of the ceiling but it has a bulge that indicates it may at any moment and discharge more of the robes upon the site of No. 250. Some of the injured appeared to be suffering severely from shock in addition to their bruises. The shop No. 248 was insured in the Chua Os insurance office for \$800. The other floors were uninsured. With regard to the recent work it was suggested, and it seems reasonable enough, that some of the unemployed men at the Sailors' Home might have been sent for. They would have been glad to earn a trifl. and they would certainly have given the officers' better aid than the gang of coolies, who were often in each other's way.

#### LATER DETAILS.

After the publication of the above particulars in our midday extra the rescue party succeeded in finding the men who were partly entombed at about 1 p.m., and they were sent to the Hospital. When the bricks had been cleared from the place whence cries were heard, two dead bodies were found, one above the other. The unfortunate creature who was first found was buried by the workers. While shovelling out the debris into the street a cat, which had been smothered, made her appearance. Puss seemed none the worse for her adventure and soon cleared off in search of more comfortable quarters. As the balconies were left without support and threatened to become a danger a party of P. W. D. labourers shored them up from the road with stout bamboo scaffolding.

Forrester Phillips had charge of the operations this afternoon and under his directions a strong gang of coolies and some European officers were busily engaged in hauling out the beams and joists in the rear of the premises to enable the shovels and pickaxes to get to work on the huge pile of fallen walls. There are many tons of this stuff to be removed and the officers believe that when the bottom of it is reached, there will be further additions to add to the mortality list.

A woman who was on duty on the second floor of 248 after the fire, says that the heat in the western wall was extreme long after the flames had been quelled. The root of the balcony here is badly charred and that of the room inside was burst through. A crack has been noticed on the eastern wall in the third story of the shop adjoining No. 250 and there is a big crack over the arch of the granular of No. 248 on the lower floor.

Of the men taken to the Hospital to have been able to leave the institution.

On the wall of 250 on the second floor were hanging to-day articles of clothing, a mirror and umbrella and baskets placed there by their owners who were all unaware of the fearful catastrophe that was so soon to take place. Great piles of clothing and furniture have been rescued intact and are stored on the pathway where Chinese police keep guard over them. The scene of the accident has all day been thronged with hundreds of curious Chinese and a press of European and Sikh police on duty keeping the road clear.

It is not expected that the whole of the ground floor can be got clear until sometime to-morrow, so that if there are more victims under the ruins there is very little prospect of them being got out alive.

## IMPORTANT INSURANCE CASE.

In the British Consular Court for Higo and Osaka an insurance case which was watched with keen interest by the mercantile communities in Japan was concluded on the 16th instant. It will henceforth be known as the case J. A. Silva v. Lucas & Co., agents for the Union Fire Insurance Company. The claim was for \$3,400 on a policy of fire insurance for \$4,000. Mr. J. C. Hall (British Consul) and Meissner, R. Hughes and P. S. Symes (Assessors) heard the case and the following is the full text of the JUDGMENT.

His Honour said:—This is a claim for fire insurance, the parties being present. The facts in the case are simple. On the 8th of May last the plaintiff effected an insurance on goods in his godown for \$3,000 marking, together with a previous insurance on furniture in the same establishment, \$4,000.

The next incident occurs

two days after when, according to the evidence of some of the plaintiff's witnesses, the last lot of braid in the first consignment from Inouye and also 160 coils of straw braid from Inouye were delivered at his godown. On the 17th May fire occurs, which is extinguished close after the commencement. Thereupon plaintiff claims for \$3,400 odd as for a total loss of his goods. It is one of the conditions of the contract—it is the sixteenth article of the policy—which provides that any dispute relating to the claim if there be no suspicion of fraud shall be submitted to arbitration. There appears to have been a certain amount of reluctance on the defendant's part to state explicitly what was abundantly evident from the beginning and very reasonable that they suspected fraud. In view of the fact that the cases bamboo and cases straw braid were practically unjoined, that the office furniture was untouched by fire or water, to say as plaintiff said in his letter of the day after the fire that the goods were entirely destroyed is simply an audacious falsehood. No less strong terms are justified. The defendants are therefore perfectly justified in refusing payment as for a total loss and the claim itself was so far preposterous as to give justifiable grounds of suspicion of even more deliberate fraud. When the case came to be looked into by the Court, I and the assessors sitting as jury we agreed there was ample evidence of deliberate fraud. The defendants in their pleading assert that the first so-called list was imperfect, which it undoubtedly is, containing only four items. The second, on which plaintiff sues, they assert is false and fraudulent. I have examined with the utmost care every jot and tittle of evidence put forward by the plaintiff and his witnesses in support of his list, particularly his books, and the result of my examination is to convince me that the case rests with fraud from the beginning. I say nothing as to the origin of the fire. The so-called statement of claim consists of 13 items. With regard to six of these I am convinced they are false and fraudulent. I proceed to enumerate, and to give some reasons for so thinking. To begin with, the numbers given in the purchase book by the plaintiff and his witness do not correspond. There is a difference at any rate of 130 coils of straw braid. An attempt has been made to wipe out that by making a final entry in the so-called purchase book. In the course of his cross-examination, when asked for 600 coils of straw braid, the plaintiff categorically and explicitly proved 800 coils,—120 too much. The value of the so-called purchase book may be inferred from the fact there is no entry of the bamboo although it was in godown and is there still. Nor is it in godown book. These bamboo are entered in the rough purchase book without any date, but the succeeding entry is dated 13th March, 1897. Plaintiff's witness, Inouye, gave very explicit evidence as to straw braid, 160 coils special quality at \$4.00, a written receipt was produced and the delivery seemed to be fairly proved, but on comparing his purchase book with the rough purchase book here again I find evidence of fraud. In the purchase book these 160 coils are set down as being marked No. 1,100 and as being supplied by Inouye at \$4.00 a coil. In his rough purchase book I have discovered an entry relating undoubtedly to the same thing dated 10th January, 1897, but the name is not Inouye but Nishimura, and the number is 100. So coils at \$4.00 and another item, also a special item, No. 108, 80 coils at \$4.00 per coil, to be delivered in three months and to be packed in cardboard boxes. As regards the other items, the bamboo screens, for these there are no less than three entries for the rough purchase book, where one is entered Tokobashi and the other two Negai, but in the purchase book all three are entered in one name, and not under either of these, Tokobashi or Negai, but under Kondi. The 36 silk screens are in existence, unburnt, but the silk and colo screens picked in cases and the 30 loose screens have disappeared, leaving no trace behind. The same observation might apply to the bamboo blinds, but as those are much lighter and flimsier I give plaintiff the benefit of the doubt. But excluding that, I find one of thirteen items claimed six as not only unproved but, in view of evidence given by defendant's witness, and especially by Mr. Sim, and is of the appearance of the godown when viewed by myself and assessor—I find it improbable and unbelievable and fails to say there were cases 160 coils straw braid consumed under the staircase. I consider it fraudulent to say there were a case of silk screens consumed in the same way, and that there were 4 boxes of special straw braid under the stairs and 30 loose screens. These six items I pronounce to be fraudulent. I mention the absence of dates in the plaintiff's purchase books. For the first three pages, which appear to extend over three months, there are proper entries on the other pages not a single date is entered. There is a similar absence of dates in plaintiff's so-called godown book. In regard then to plaintiff's conduct for claiming for a total loss when in fact the damage was very slight, and in charging an excessive value for some articles, as for instance in charging \$4.00 for a small lot of samples upstairs, in regard to the false entries in the list six out of thirteen are proved impossible; in regard to the godown entry book kept by the godown man not being produced; in regard to the fact that when an expert was called in to examine the straw braid plaintiff was able to give dates but not able to give dates either to the defendants or to the Court, these discrepancies, in the quantities of goods, the numbers in date, the absence of dates and the variations between the evidence given at the trial and in the rough purchase book, all combine to show the claim to have been corrupt and fraudulent. There must therefore be judgment for defendants with costs.

I consider the defendants have done the public service in bringing this case into the light of a Law Court. It appears from the correspondence now in Court that at one time the defendants contemplated paying a sum to the plaintiff, reasonable amount for a partial loss. I consider defendants have rendered a signal service to public opinion in which they beg to inform the local officers of all the districts of Kwangtung. They further beg to appeal to officers to look after their interests with

with costs. In this, I may add, the Associates concur.

Mr. Brushfield: Your Honour, in the matter of the goods still remaining in the godown, in view of the expressions you have made I would ask that defendants be granted a hearing.

His Honour:—I will grant an order to show cause. I will hear that in Chambers.

The Court then rose.—*Telegraph*.

## THE KWANGSI KEROSINE AND MATCH FARM.

### ACTION OF THE CHAMBER OF COMMERCE.

Mr. R. Chatterton Wilcox, Secretary of the Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, forwards copies of the following correspondence on the subject of the erection of a farm or syndicate to collect lekin on kerosine and matches in Kwangtung:

MRS. ARNOLD, KARBERG & CO. TO THE CHAMBER.

Hongkong, 16th July, 1897.

Sir,—We herewith beg to draw the attention of the Chamber to a notice which the Chief Director of Lekin Offices of the province of Kwangtung has issued conjointly with the Treasurer, Judge, and Salt Commissioner of the same province in the course of the 4th month of the current Chinese year, granting to a Chinese merchant, Leung Kuang Yuan, and others the privilege of the importation of matches and kerosine oil into the province of Kwangtung.

Sir,—The notice is as follows:—

THE CHAMBER TO H. B. M. CONSUL, CANTON.

Hongkong General Chamber of Commerce, Hongkong, 20th July.

Sir,—The attention of this Chamber has been directed to a notice issued by the Provincial Authorities of Kwangtung announcing the concession to a Chinese merchant (one Leung Kuang Yuan) and others the privilege of importing matches and kerosine oil into the above-named province for a period of twelve years on terms which constitute it a virtual monopoly and render the transit pass privilege to a large extent useless, while it cannot fail to severely hamper foreign trade on the West River.

The notice, issued in the course of the fourth Chinese Moon, has doubtless come to this notice to you, knowledge, and you will, probably, have protested against this fresh violation of the Treaties.

My Committee propose addressing Sir Claude Macdonald on the subject, probably by wire, but before doing so they would be glad to have your opinion on the case. Will you kindly favour the Chamber with an early reply, since, if action is to be taken, the Committee are of opinion that no time should be lost—I have the honour to be, Sir, your most obedient servant,

R. CHATTERTON WILCOX,

Secretary.

Byron Bresan, Esq., C.M.G., H.B.M.'s Consul, Canton.

## THE CONSUL TO THE CHAMBER.

H. B. M. Consulate, Canton, 21st July, 1897.

Sir,—I beg to acknowledge the receipt of your letter of yesterday on the subject of the new tax on kerosine and matches in the province of Kwangtung. A Chinese syndicate farms the tax and pays for it to the Government of Kwangtung.

1.—The collection of the Cho Lekin tax on all matches and kerosine oil imported into the province of Kwangtung is farmed out to the said Leung Kuang Yuan for a period of 12 years against the yearly payment of a sum of \$10,000 to the Government of Kwangtung.

2.—A Company with a capital of \$300,000 is to be formed by the farmer to purchase kerosine oil and matches from foreign merchants for importation into the province. These goods shall be marked with the Company's trade mark and are to be exempt from any other charges whatever, except the customary import duty of 1 per cent. ad valorem levied by the Chinese Imperial Maritime Customs.

3.—All other merchants who desire to import matches or kerosine oil into any district belonging to the province of Kwangtung shall have to pay to the said farmer or to his Company a tax of 30 cents for every two tons of kerosine oil, and \$2 for every box of matches.

4.—After the payment of this tax the Company's trade mark will be affixed to the goods and they will then be exempt from any other taxation.

5.—The right is granted to the farmer or his Company to confiscate any matches or kerosine oil imported into the province of Kwangtung on which the aforementioned taxes have not been paid by the owner, and which do not bear the trade mark of the Company.

The above are the principal points of the notice of which we enclose a copy, and we venture to hope that your Committee will consider the procedure of the Provincial Authorities of Kwangtung and protest against the same in the proper quarter.

The notice issued consists of a renewed violation against the treaties. It is highly detrimental to the free development of trade on the West River, and grants advantages to a privileged commercial society which almost amount to a monopoly.

The action of these authorities is inconsistent with their proclamation issued last January, granting the general use of transit passes in the province of Kwangtung. The opening of the West River to foreign trade and the transit pass question have only been settled for a short period, and after a long and desperate struggle, in which your Chamber took such a prominent part, and we trust that your Committee will use strong pressure to prevent Chinese provincial authorities from impairing the advantages obtained after such large difficulties. We have the honour, Sir, to be your obedient servant,

pp. ARNOLD, KARBERG & CO.

(Signed) E. GOTZ.

R. Chatterton Wilcox, Esq., Secretary, Hongkong Chamber of Commerce.

### LEUNG TAX NOTICE.

The Chief Director of the Lekin Office of the Province of Kwangtung, the Provincial Treasurer, the Provincial Judge, and the Salt Commissioner have jointly issued a notice to the effect as follows:

1.—It is to notify that a despatch has been received from Tsu-Ping-Man, Perfect of Wuchow, and Tam-Kwok-Yan, expectant Prefect and Director of the Chief Lekin Station, stating that their merchant named Leung-Kwong-Yan and others have farmed out the Cho Lekin Tax—i.e., retained duty—levied on matches and kerosine oil imported into the whole Province of Kwangtung. The farmer is to pay to the Government of Wuchow \$10,000 per annum, which is to be paid by the Custom House, it is free from all the local taxes and lekin taxes when paid to the said farmer.

The farmer is to be excepted from all other charges whatever from the Government. The farmer will find a Company with a capital of \$300,000 to purchase kerosine oil and matches from foreign countries and import them into the Province of Kwangtung. The farmer is to pay to the Government of Wuchow \$10,000 per annum, which is to be paid by the Custom House, it is free from all the local taxes and lekin taxes when paid to the said farmer.

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The

Amusement.

THEATRE ROYAL  
CITY HALL  
TO-MORROW  
(THURSDAY, July 29th.)  
GRAND OPENING NIGHT  
OF  
POLLARD'S  
LILLIPUTIAN OPERA  
COMPANY.

Under the Distinguished Patronage of  
H.E. The Governor Sir Wm. ROBINSON, G.C.M.G.,  
H.E. Major-General BLACK, C.B.,  
Commodore HOLLAND, R.N.

(THURSDAY & FRIDAY, 29th and 30th).  
R. Soppe's Popular Comic Opera  
"BOCCACCIO."

SATURDAY AFTERNOON, July 31st.  
Grand Matinee  
"H.M.S. PINAFORE."

Children and Adults Half Price to all parts of  
the house.

SATURDAY, July 31st.  
"LA MASCOTTE."

MONDAY August 2nd.  
"DO. OTHON."

Plan now open at W. ROBINSON & CO'S,  
Music Warehouse.  
PRICES ..... \$3, \$2 & \$1.  
Soldiers and Sailors in Uniform Half Price to  
2nd and Back Seats only.  
Late Trams will leave 15 minutes after each  
Performance.

A. H. POLLARD,  
Advance Representative,  
Hongkong Hotel.

Hongkong, 23rd July, 1897. [1157]

Auction.

PUBLIC AUCTION.  
The Undersigned have received instructions  
to Sell by  
PUBLIC AUCTION

ON  
THURSDAY, the 29th July, 1897,  
at 2.00 P.M.,

SUNDAY FURNITURES, &c.,  
in the  
OLD HONGKONG CLUB.

Catalogues will be issued.  
TERMS OF SALE:—As usual.

HUGHES & HOUCH,  
Auctioneers.

Hongkong, 27th July, 1897. [1154]

Masonic.

ZETLAND LODGE,  
No. 325, E.C.

A REGULAR MEETING of the above  
LODGE will be held in the FREEMASONS'  
HALL, Zetland Street, on SATURDAY, the 31st  
July, at 8.30 for 9 p.m. precisely. Visiting  
Brothers are cordially invited to attend.  
Hongkong, 24th July, 1897. [1154]

Intimations.

BANK HOLIDAY.

In accordance with Ordinance No. 6 of 1875,  
the Undersigned BANKS will be  
CLOSED for the Transaction of Public Business  
on MONDAY, the 2nd August.

For the CHARTERED BANK OF INDIA,  
AUSTRALIA, AND CHINA,  
T. H. WHITEHEAD,  
Manager, Hongkong.

For the HONGKONG & SHANGHAI BANKING  
CORPORATION,  
T. JACKSON,  
Chief Manager.

For the NATIONAL BANK OF CHINA,  
LIMITED, GEO. MUNRO,  
for Chief Manager.

For the MERCANTILE BANK OF INDIA,  
LIMITED, JOHN THURBURN,  
Manager, Hongkong.

For the BANQUE DE L'INDO-CHINE,  
Hongkong Agency,  
G. F. AUGUSTIN,  
Manager.

For the BANK OF CHINA & JAPAN, LIMITED,  
HONGKONG,  
CHANTREY INCHBALD,  
Manager.

For the YOKOHAMA SPECIE BANK, LIMITED,  
S. CHOH,  
Agent.

Hongkong, 26th July, 1897. [1143]

INSURANCE HOLIDAYS.

THE Undersigned INSURANCE  
OFFICES will be CLOSED for the  
Transactions of Public Business on MONDAY,  
the 2nd August:—

JARDINE, MATHESON & CO.,  
General Agents,  
CANTON INSURANCE OFFICE, LTD.  
General Managers,  
HONGKONG FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

W. J. SAUNDERS,  
Acting Secretary,  
UNION INSURANCE SOCIETY OF  
CANTON, LTD.

W. H. PERCIVAL,  
Agent,  
NORTH-CHINA INSURANCE CO., LTD.

W. H. RAY,  
Secretary,  
CHINA TRADERS' INSURANCE CO., LTD.  
SHEWAN, TOME'S & CO.,  
Agents.

YANGTZE INSURANCE ASSOCIATION, LTD.  
J. B. COUGHLTRIE,  
Secretary,  
CHINA FIRE INSURANCE CO., LTD.

W. H. T. DAVIS,  
Acting Manager,  
THE STRAITS INSURANCE CO., LTD.,  
Hongkong, 26th July, 1897. [1144]

FOR IMMEDIATE SALE.

THE SANDAKAN IRON WORKS.

A sad loss has occurred to the Death of  
the PROPRIETOR. The WORKS are  
most favourably situated in the Middle of the  
Town, the PLANT is in GOOD ORDER, and  
the Business is capable of Great Expansion;  
there are also 2 Launches which will be optional  
for Purchaser to take over with the Business.

For further Particulars, apply to

THE LIQUIDATOR,

Sandakan.

Intimations.

A STRIKING SUCCESS!  
MAYPOLE SOAP BUT WON'T WASH  
OUT OR FADE.

DOES NOT DYE THE HANDS.

For Dying SILKS, SATINS, COTTONS, FEATHERS, LACE, WOOLLEN GOODS, or MIXTURES  
of COTTON and WOOL, &c.

Such as Blouses, Dresses, Undresses, Ribbons, Children's Frocks, Plaistors, Lamp Shades,  
Silk Scarves, Handkerchiefs, Gentlemen's Shirts, Lace Curtains, Silk Gloves,  
Stockings, Antimacassars, Toilet Mats, Shawls, &c., &c., &c.

COLOURS STOCKED.

Cream, Heliotrope, Pink, Canary, Mauve, Alice-Green, Light-Blue, Terra-Cotta, Orange,  
Nutmeg, Scarlet, Black, Cerise and Carmine.

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WATKINS & CO., Apothecaries' Hall, 66, Queen's Road Central. [13]

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FRENCH CORSETS  
C. P. A LA SIRENE

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Beware of Spurious Imitations  
Only genuine if Labelled and Stamped  
C. P. à la Sirène.

APPLY TO

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SETTING UP OF DISTILLERIES

Rice — Corn — Sugar-cane, etc.

PRODUCTION OF EXTRA-NEUTRAL ALCOHOLS

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Liquors Factories — Preserves Factories

Laboratories of Druggists — Essences Factories

STEAM KITCHENS

ECRO & GRANGE, Rue Mathis, PARIS

Apply to Messrs. DODWELL CARLILL & CO., Hong Kong.

A WORD TO MOTHERS.

You do not always know the real cause of emaciated tendencies  
of your babies, or just why your children are thin and pale. You do  
not need to. What you want is a CURE for whatever ails them.

Scott's Emulsion

is endorsed by the whole medical profession as an ideal nourishment  
during growth. It contains the essential elements for increasing  
vitality, giving flesh, and making solid bones. It cures Rickets,  
Mataisim, and all Wasting Diseases, and makes the children robust,  
strong, and rosy. Prepared by SCOTT, & DOWNE, Limited, London. All Chemists.

Sole Agents for Hongkong and the Empire of China:—WATKINS & CO., Hongkong.

CHS. J. GAUPP & CO.,

CHRONOMETRE, WATCH, and CLOCK  
MAKERS, JEWELLERS, SILVER,  
SMITHS, and OPTICIANS.

CHARTS and BOOKS.

NAUTICAL INSTRUMENTS.

Sole Agents for Louis Audemars' Watches

awarded the highest Prizes at every Exhibition;

and for Voigtlander and Sohn's

CELEBRATED OPERA GLASSES,

MARINE GLASSES and SPYGLASSES

No. 54 & 56, Queen's Road Central. [140]

LEVY HERMANOS.

DIAMOND MERCHANTS, JEWELLERS  
AND WATCHMAKERS.

Sole Agents in the East for the amalgamated

CLEMENT, HUMBER and GLADIATOR CO., LTD.

DUNLOP TYRE'S BICYCLES—PRICES—\$15.

A special reliable Watch made for this Climate

Quality A ..... \$16

Quality B ..... \$12

10, QUEEN'S ROAD CENTRAL,

Opposite the Telegraph Office.

MITSUI BUSSAN KAISHA

No. 5, Queen's Road Central.

Head Office—TOKIO.

Branch Office—

LONDON, NEW YORK, BOMBAY,

SINGAPORE, SHANGHAI, TIEN-TSIN,

NEW-CHANG, and all Ports in JAPAN.

Agents—

Mitsui Coal Mines,

Omura Coal Mines,

Kanada Coal Mines.

Tokyo Marine Insurance Co., Limited.

Meiji Fire Insurance Co., Limited.

Imperial Government Paper Mills, Japan.

Cotton Cleaning and Wk. Co., Shanghai.

Onoda Cement Company, Japan.

Kodoguchi Cotton Spinning Mill, Limited.

Tokyo Cotton Spinning Mill, Japan.

Hayashi Clock Factory.

Hongkong, 11th December, 1897. [145]

THE GRILL ROOM,  
1, QUEEN'S ROAD.

THE LEADING CATERERS

ON

TUESDAYS,

GREEN TURTLE STEAKS, for Tiffin;

GREEN TURTLE SOUP; for Dinner.

ALADS and DELICIOUS ENTREES; or

PRIVATE HOURS at shortest notice.

WEDDINGS, PRIVATE PARTIES,

TIFFINS and DINNERS; & Specialty.

Hongkong, 14th December, 1897. [145]

MEE CHEUNG,

PHOTOGRAPHER,

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mendable Premises, to eclipse, as hereunto

ALL PHOTOGRAPHIC ART—PRACTICED

in the Colony or in any part of the Far East.

GROUPS and VIEWS

especially.

Beware of imitations.

Each in Gilded Case.

2000 VIEWS, PRINTS, & COPIES.

2000 VIEWS, PRINTS, & COPIES.

Hongkong, 14th May, 1897. [145]

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THE LIQUIDATOR,

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